

VOTER GUIDE – CITY ELECTION
CITY of PONTIAC
Tuesday, November 3, 2009
POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OAKLAND AREA

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The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan national organization whose purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party. Candidate responses are included as submitted and have not been edited except in cases where the replies have exceeded the stated word limitations. **Spelling and Grammar were not corrected.** The inclusion of candidates' statements and opinions is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters which takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates.

Questionnaires were NOT sent to Candidates UNOPPOSED on the Ballot

THERE ARE NO CITY PROPOSALS ON THE BALLOT.

2 Candidates for MAYOR for 4-year term

CANDIDATES for <u>MAYOR</u> ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i>	Question 1 (150 Words or less): Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for City office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.	Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues that the city should address and what actions would you take regarding each of them?
LEON B. JUKOWSKI 175 S. Saginaw #204 Pontiac, MI 48342	<p>I was born and Raised in Pontiac and am the father of two boys, a member of St. Vincent DePaul Catholic Church (9 years), NAACP, North Oakland Branch (17 years) and the Committee of 50 (4 years), I am a graduate of Georgetown University and American University's Washington College of Law.</p> <p>I am an attorney with over 22 years experience, and a business man who donates the space for Pontiac's Unity Boxing team. (Formerly the "Sal" team.)</p> <p>I was the first to donate \$10,000 to the Pontiac Promise Zone, a program that will provide free college education to any child that graduates from the Pontiac school system.</p> <p>I am the Chairman of the Pontiac Hospital Finance Authority and a former Deputy Mayor who helped bring "Main Street" status to our City, and helped privatize our garbage pick up, saving the City almost 1.5 million dollars per year.</p>	<p>Finance and Public Safety</p> <p>The City is paying close to 500,000 dollars per month in debt service on outstanding debt, over 4,000.00 dollars per day to keep the Silverdome inflated and losing almost \$300,000.00 per year on parking. These funds alone would would eliminate the City's structural deficit. <u>My administration will deflate the Silverdome, reform parking, and redirect those funds to to public safety, and renegotiate all of our outstanding debts.</u></p> <p>Business Sense</p> <p>The only way out of our current crises is growth and job creation. For too long, Pontiac has had a reputation as a City that is difficult to do business in. We have ignored offers of assistance and advice that would have helped us run the City more efficiently. <u>My administration will seek out small businesses to bring to Pontiac, meet regularly with State and County officials and be as business and job friendly as possible.</u></p>

CITY OF PONTIAC (Continued)

<p>CANDIDATES for MAYOR</p> <p>ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i></p>	<p>Question 1 (150 Words or less): Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for City office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.</p>	<p>Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues that the city should address and what actions would you take regarding each of them?</p>
<p>SANDY-MICHAEL E. McDONALD 674 Bay St. Pontiac, MI 48342</p>	<p>Born September 7, 1961 Pontiac General Hospital. The youngest of 8 children by the late Reverend Eddie A. McDonald and still with us Mary E. McDonald. Graduated from Pontiac Northern in 1979 and from Virginia Union University with a Bachelors in Social Science in 1986.</p> <p>I am running for Mayor of the City of Pontiac as I believe that my education, life experiences and employment over the past 30 year have prepared me to work on behalf of the citizens of our city and have given me the sills to work with other city, county and state leaders to improve our city.</p> <p>I believe my organizational skills, detail driven characteristic, my personal policy of accountability and willingness to make a decision are some of the attributes that would make me an effective Mayor. I have a Vision for the City of Pontiac that I want to share.</p>	<p>Police. Saying "we need more police" is not the answer What will be important is one who knows how to put more police officers on the street. Reorganizing our existing men, women and command staff is the start.</p> <p>Education, must be one of the priorities of the next Mayor. The city and schools must do more together as it relates to secondary education, training, career paths and business recruitment, which leads to more jobs. Our community does not grow with out our schools being priority.</p> <p>Finance, none of the above are possible with out adequate finances. The city must recognize the difference between city essential services and quality of life activities? We can not have quality of life activities at the expenses of not having essential city services. Pontiac can't continue to cut their way out of the deficit. Revenue growth has to be part of the answer.</p>

CITY OF PONTIAC (Continued)

2 Candidates for CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 for ONE 4-year term

CANDIDATES for CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i>	Question 1 (150 Words or less): Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for City office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.	Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues that the city should address and what actions would you take regarding each of them?
<p>PATRICE WATERMAN 1002 Canterbury Dr. Pontiac, MI 48341</p>	<p>Due to the economical hardships the City of Pontiac is now faced with, we can no longer afford to do business as usual.</p> <p>The Governor has appointed an Emergency Financial Manager and we must have someone in place that understands the uniqueness of Municipal Government.</p> <p>My 22 years of experience serving as the Legislative Administrator for the Pontiac City Council has afforded me the opportunity to have hands on experience. As the Administrator, I prepared and oversaw the Budget, scheduled all meetings, reviewed and disseminated all replied responsibilities that pertain to Council.</p> <p>When a Councilperson was unable to make a meeting, I served as the Liaison.</p> <p>That's why I feel my qualifications and work ethics provide me with the level of expertise needed to deal with the decision making process. I will utilize my skills and contact for a viable and prosperous city.</p>	<p>(1) Elimination of Slum & Blight the numbers are staggering and progress is slow?</p> <p>I would take immediate action in ridding the system of red-tape and enforce the regulations mandated with the Cities of Promise Blight Elimination Program that the City of Pontiac was funded \$800,000 and now in jeopardy of losing.</p> <p>(2) Have collaboration and on-going communications with School Board Trustees and Superintendent.</p> <p>To implement and establishing youth Mentoring Programs geared towards education and employment; Organizing Youth Recognition Events and "Grassroots" advisory programs involving seniors. Which could be funded thru grants, and have a grant writer in place?</p> <p>(3) Creating an in-depth analysis and evaluation of my Districts Housing and Businesses.</p> <p>Use all available resources for Pontiac: Oakland County Officials, State Representatives, Congressional Leaders, and MSHDA. Working closely with local colleges to utilize students as resources to identify statistics, develop surveys and expand on community input for planning and organizing.</p>
<p>W. CHARLI YARBRO 862 Golf Dr. #301 Pontiac, MI 48341</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

CITY OF PONTIAC (Continued)

For **CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2** for **ONE 4-year term**:

GEORGE WILLIAMS 85 Mohawk Pontiac, MI 48341

2 Candidates for CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 for ONE 4-year term

CANDIDATES for CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i>	Question 1 (150 Words or less): Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for City office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.	Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues that the city should address and what actions would you take regarding each of them?
<p>MARY PIETILA 114 Dresden Ave. #204 Pontiac, MI 48340</p>	<p>I am a 30-year resident of the City of Pontiac, 17 years on Dresden Ave. The proud single parent of two successful young adults. A longtime volunteer within the City. I have over 10 years experience in Property Management.</p> <p>District 3 is lacking proper representation; I feel that my strong passion for the area I call "home," qualifies me be the next Councilperson for this district. As a longtime member of this District, I have developed relationships with other residents in District 3 neighborhoods. Collaboration and communication are a key element to any position. The ability to investigate, review and research information thoroughly, before rendering decisions is also mandatory. More important, making sure your constituents know that you're there for them first and foremost, addressing the issues in your district. Despite residents interest neighborhood watch, the programs have not grown. Now is the time for growth so we can assist</p>	<p>Economic Development; Buildings have been built for store fronts, yet remain empty shells. Market surveys should be completed prior to building. This will enlighten the proprietors to what the demand is for store front footage in their area.</p> <p>Slum and Blight: poses a hazard to citizens, possibly increasing criminal activity. As a property manager, I experienced repeat calls about our properties. Contacting property owners in our neighborhoods have reduced/eliminated these issues. Processes are in order for demolition but it's a slow process. If we all took time to place phone calls, I think we would see a drastic change in our neighborhoods until the buildings can be demolished or refurbished.</p> <p>Criminal Activity. Neighborhood watch programs do work, with proper training, residents have proven to be successful in assisting the Police Department. Sometimes we need to think out of the box.</p>
<p>SHERMAN WILLIAMS, II 674 Lounsbury Ave. Pontiac, MI 48340</p>	<p>DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION</p>	

For **CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 4** for **ONE 4-year term**:

RANDY CARTER 86 W. Yale Ave. Pontiac, MI 48340

CITY OF PONTIAC (Continued)

2 Candidates for CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 for ONE 4-year term

CANDIDATES for CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 ONE 4-year term <i>Vote for no more than ONE</i>	Question 1 (150 Words or less): Please provide biographical information and explain why you are running for City office and relevant qualities and skills you would bring to the position.	Question 2 (150 Words or less): What are the top 3 Priority Issues that the city should address and what actions would you take regarding each of them?
RON W. HARMON 597 Brooks Ave. Pontiac, MI 48340	<p>I am 51 years old and have lived in the city of Pontiac most of my life. I have been married for 33 years. I have 3 children, two boys and one girl. I also have four grandchildren, which I dearly love.</p> <p>The reason that I am running for City Council of District #5 is because I have watched the city deteriorate through the years and watched elected officials that do not listen to the voice of the people. The elected officials are voted in by the people to represent the people's voice.</p> <p>I have taken on projects to represent the people of Pontiac and have fought for their rights. I am the right man at the right time for this job, to help rebuild the City of Pontiac!!! I have the experience and the ability to get the job done.</p>	<p>The 3 most important things that the city should address are crime, education and jobs!!!!</p> <p>I would enact a neighborhood watch in my district, and have a curfew for children under the age of 16 to be in their home by 11:00 pm. If a child is caught on the street after 11:00 pm then the parent would be responsible for a fine.</p> <p>We must offer the best education for our children to compete in today's job market. I would get the parents involved in their children's education. We would require uniforms for students to wear. Homework assignments could be monitored online by parents to keep on top of their child's progress.</p> <p>We need companies to invest in the city of Pontiac. We need to offer tax abatements to lure companies to establish themselves in Pontiac. Tax incentives will cause growth and many jobs to the city of Pontiac!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</p>
DONALD WATKINS 1526 Stirling Lakes Dr. Pontiac, MI 48340	DID NOT RESPOND IN TIME FOR INCLUSION	

For **CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6 for ONE 4-year term:**

LEE A. JONES 49 Victory Dr. Pontiac, MI 48342

For **CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 6 for ONE 4-year term:**

KERMIT WILLIAMS 365 S. Edith Pontiac, MI 48342

For **LIBRARY BOARD DIRECTOR** for 4-year term, **SIX seats** are available:

JOYCE ALLEN 91 Charles Ln. Pontiac, MI 48341

DORIS BURKS TAYLOR 1279 Heatherwood Ln. Pontiac, MI 48341

TERRY TONEY 143 N. Genesee Ave. Pontiac, MI 48341

DEIRDRE HOLLOWAY WATERMAN 312 Ottawa Dr. Pontiac, MI 48341

MICHAEL D. WILLIAMS 515 Fildew Ave. Pontiac, MI 48341

Write-In: ROGER S. DERBY 34 Niagara Ave., Pontiac, MI 48341